

KOL MEVASSER

Rabbi's Message



Many people are surprised to learn that the most common merry-making traditions of Purim are of fairly recent origin. Ask any child what Purim is all about and you'll be as likely to get "costumes and graggers" as you would "Esther and Haman." Of course Purim is all about the party! I mean really, who ever heard of a Purim without that special carnival atmosphere?!

Yet about 500 years ago, the answer to that question was "pretty well every Jewish community in the world." Dress-up and noise-making do not appear in the Megilla, and are absent from rabbinic literature for a thousand years after the publication of the Mishna. With such a long period of silence, we can only assume that neither of these customs had any serious toehold until the High Middle Ages.

The earliest mention of drowning out Haman's name is in the *Sefer Hamanhig* (late 12th century Provence), which says that it was an extension of a folk practice among children to write Haman's name on rocks and bang them together. The earliest mention of masquerading is in the responsa of Rabbi Judah Minz (late 15th century Venice), who already finds himself defending it against nay-sayers. While he focused on whether it was appropriate to dress as members of the opposite sex, we might also wonder at its parallels with the Christian tradition of "Carnival."

Based on these sources, it seems that these customs first spread around Europe during the Late Middle Ages and Early Modern period. Both were

even slower to reach the Arab world, which only encountered them in the 19th century. When the Ben Ish Hai was published in 1898, it reports that noise-making was confined to tapping one's clogs, and even then it was only for the first and last Haman and the hanging of his 10 sons (Tetsave 11).

So what did they do instead? Dr. Avraham Ben-Yaakov paints a vivid picture of the Purim celebrations in 19th century Baghdad (*Minhage Yahadut Bavel*, I:226-236): In the lead-up to the holiday there was an explosion of baking for Mishloah Manot, featuring traditional treats like the ones we still enjoy at Kahal today. Purim itself was a rousing two-day celebration due to Baghdad's possible status as a "walled city from the time of Joshua." After the daytime Megilla, lavish meals were held in the streets, and gift-giving included sweets and pocket money for the children. Bands of minstrels would go caroling at the houses of the Jewish elites, singing Pizmonim in Hebrew and Arabic. Card games were so common that the Muslims called Purim the "Festival of Cards," and the King card was universally known as "Haman" among the Jews.

Masquerading and noise-making are successful at endearing Judaism to our children, and are a permanent addition to global Jewish life. Yet by reminding ourselves that they are not essential to the observance of Purim, we are challenged to become more invested in the deeper meaning of the holiday. Just as our kids will come to love Purim for its sense of fun, so may they come to cherish its messages of trust in God, the power of prayer, and the special responsibilities of flourishing in exile.

Parashat Tetsave Shabbat Zachor

Torah: Ex. 27:20–30:10; Deut. 25:17–19
Hertz 339, 856; Stone 464, 1066
Haftara: I Samuel 15:1–34
Hertz 995–998; Stone 1214–1216
Tefillot: Mashiv Haruah, Birkat Halevana



Shaharit next Shabbat will start at 8:15 to accommodate a Bar Mitsva

KJ Schedule

Erev Shabbat

Friday, February 23rd

Candle lighting	5:26 pm
Minha	5:15 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat / Arvit	5:45 pm

Yom Shabbat

Saturday, February 24th

Shaharit.....	8:30 am
Keri'at HaTorah.....	10:15 am
Musaf	11:40 am
Women's Tehillim.....	right after kiddush
Minha with <i>Mi Khamokha</i>	4:30 pm
Se'uda Shelisheet	5:30 pm
Arvit	6:15 pm
Havdala	6:30 pm

Sunday, February 25th

Shaharit	7:30 am
PURIM CARNIVAL	11 am to 3 pm

Monday-Tuesday, February 26– 27
Shaharit

6:25 am
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Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored by
Dafna and Rex Young

in honor of
the Bar Mitzva of their son

Netanel Ezra Young

Mazal Tov, Netanel Ezra

Besiman Tov to your
parents Dafna & Rex Young, brother Ariel
grandparents Rabbi Eliahu & Hanna Ezran
Rex & Patricia Young and extended family

Se'uda Shelisheet

is sponsored by
Sarah and Ezie Isaac

in loving memory of
Mordecai A. Cohen, z"l

Condolences

With sorrow we send our deepest condolences to the
family and friends of our dear member

Mordecai Abraham Cohen, z"l

Mordecai Hyam ben Farha and Avraham Shalom
HaCohen, who passed away on the 2nd of Adar
5778, February 17th 2018. Born in 1928 on Rosh
Hodesh Adar, he just celebrated his 90th birthday.

Mordi was from Calcutta, but spent his formative
years in the Iraqi Jewish community of Burma. He
was involved with Kahal Joseph from the start, regu-
larly attended Kahal's services and programs, and
was a devoted member of the Board.

He is survived by his daughter Fiona (Karo) Cohen;
granddaughter Jessica Fischman; nieces, nephews,
cousins, relatives & friends. He was predeceased by
his wife Sheila Cohen, and sisters Ramah Mingail &
Mozelle Sopher. Our thoughts and prayers go out to
his family: may they be comforted together with all
the mourners of Tsion. *Min hashamayim tenuhamu.*

A Song for Shabbat Zakhor: *Simeni Rosh*

שִׁמְנֵי רֹאשׁ עַל כָּל אוֹיְבֵי. וְתִשְׁמַחְנִי.

כִּימֵי מְרֹדְכִי בֶן יָאִיר. אֵל חֲנוּן וְחַנּוּנִי:

מָחָה תִּמְחָהוּ לְאָדָם. הִכָּהוּ אִם עַל בָּנִים:

לְבִשְׁתָּ מַלְכוּת לַהֲדָסָה. וְהַצַּלְתָּנִי.

בָּקוּם הָמָן הָאֲגָגִי. כְּתִנּוּן לְבִלְעָנִי: מחה...

מִמָּרוֹם רוּחַ שְׁלַחְתָּ. וְתוֹשִׁיעֵנִי.

יִסֵּר יִסְרֵנִי יְיָ. לְמוֹת לֹא נִתְּנָנִי: מחה...

הָמָן חָשֵׁב לְאַבְדֵנִי. וְלֹהֵשְׁמִידָנִי.

דָּחָה דְחִיתָנִי לְנֶפֶל. וְה' עֲזָרָנִי: מחה...

Refua Shelema

Sassoon Ezra • Moselle Amron • Sally Amron
Haskell Avrahamy • Sylvia Cohen • Esther Duke
Mehry bat Miriam Hakimipour • Tilda Levy • Yvonne
Moalim • Florice Newberry • Aliza bat Rachel • Aliza bat
Victoria • Arlette bat Rashel • Chaya Chana bat Batya
• Katie bat Farha • Malka bat Rachel • Miriam bat Yetta
Miryam bat Malka • Moshe Ezra ben MazalTov
Simcha bat Rooha • Moshe Hooman ben Sara • Habiba
bat Farha • Moshe Haim ben Sara • Meir Ezra ben Rachel

In Memoriam

We remember these yearzeit anniversaries from
February 24 to March 3, 2018. It is customary to
light memorial candles, donate tzedaka & attend
Shabbat services in honor of loved ones.

9 Adar / Shabbat, February 24th

Irena Stoler

Victoria Levy *Victoria bat Hanina*

10 Adar / Sunday, February 25th

Menashe Solomon *Menashe ben Shlomo Reuven*

Clara Solomon *Gala bat Masouda*

12 Adar / Tuesday, February 27th

Rooholah Haykani

David Shapiro *Dovid ben Chaim*

13 Adar / Wednesday, February 28th

Esther Jacob D'Cruz *Esther HaMulka bat Rahel*

Elliot Zvi Wyner *Yechiel Zvi ben Yitzhak*

Kodadad ben Yair

15 Adar / Friday, March 2

Nuriel Daizadeh *Nuriel ben Yochanan*

Jack Jacob Meir *ben Yaacov*

Vera Rosenfeld *Vera bat Hannah Hatoun*

(Continued from page 1)

Fast of Esther

Wednesday, February 28th

Fast starts 5:08 am

Shaharit..... 6:05 am

Minha w/Birkat Kohanim..... 5:00 pm

Megilla Reading..... after Minha

Snack (if one must eat) after 6:11 pm

Fast endsafter the Megilla

Purim Day

Thursday, March 1st

Shaharit with Megilla 5:45 am

Shushan Purim

Friday, March 2nd

Shaharit..... 6:25 am

Next Shabbat / Fri-Sat, March 2-3

Shabbat Candle lighting 5:32 pm

Friday Minha 5:30 pm

Shaharit 8:15 am

Saturday Minha 5:00 pm

Havdala 6:36 pm

Thank you TO THE PURIM BAKING VOLUNTEERS!

KJ thanks Yvette Dabby, Eva Dloomy and Aviva Sagi for organizing and coordinating our communal mishloah manot baking team; the Talmud Torah staff for help preparing the cards; Letizia Einy for the mishloah manot bags & gift cards; our wonderful staff including Sarah Bouchoucha, Penina Meghnagi-Solomon, and Rosa Maldonado for their support; and our amazing volunteer bakers. Please forgive us if we've missed anybody.

Jila Arasteh	Tikva Iny	Odette Sarraf
Ella Aron	Molly Jalali	Joelle Sawdayi
Nicole Aslemand	Judith Levy	Gitty Sawdayi
Elianna Davoudian	Margot Lurie	Yvonne Shiri
Keyvan Davoudian	Judy Lurie	Widad Shiri
Talia Davoudian	Doris Moshi	Ashley Soroudi
Eva Dloomy	Jasmin Nazarian	Nasrin Soroudi
Sherry Elghanian	Ruthie Nazarian	Tammy Stockfish
Louise & David Elias	Rosy Nissan	Gilda Tawfik
Sophie & Ben Elias	Rence & Norman Reiz	Yvonne Youssefzadeh
	Aviva Sagi	

מי כמחזק ואין כמחזק מי דומה לך ואין דומה לך

אדון חסדך בל יחדל. אמתך מבצר עז ומגדל. אכלו רעים שתו ושכרו. וימי הפורים בשמחה שמרו.
 כי היית מעוז לדל. ומעוז לאביון בער לו: ועם שמחתכם האביונים זכרו. ושלחו מנות לאין נכון לו:
 בימי חרפי משדמוני. בי דבר רוח ה'. דהרות אבירים באדירים נפלו. וכעופרת במים רבים צללו.
 והיום אם גרשוני עוני. דודי לי ואני לו: ודורשי ה' שמו יהללו. בנגבל עשור זמרו לו:
 גמלני מאז טובות. גלויות ידועות ללכבות. הרצנו ידו הנפלאה. על שפת הים נוראה.
 גם אם יהיו הצרות קרובות. אשרי כל חוכי לו: אשריה לה' כי גאה גאה. בזמרות נריע לו:
 דמי מתקוממי אזה. דגלי ארים כדבר כל חוזה. דגלים עברו ביבשה. ולפניהם אל נערץ בקדשה.
 הנה אלהינו זה. קוינו לו: אז שוררו שירה חדשה. מי כמכה באלם ה':



Young Professionals Shabbat Dinner Special Event!

Friday, March 16 at 7:30PM

Join Rabbi Melhado at Sephardic Temple for an Exciting Evening with Rabbi Marc Angel!

"Sephardic/Middle Eastern Jewish Traditions and Ideals... for Us and for Future Generations"

\$18 per person for the first 10 to register!

RSVP deadline Friday, March 9 - no tickets at the door

RSVP to Rabbi Melhado at rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org



Seder Matching

Passover is coming!
First night seder is Friday, March 30!

On your own for the seders?

We can help!

Do you have an extra seat at your seder table?

We can fill it!

Simply email Jessica at jessica@kahaljoseph.org by Fri, March 23 to be matched!

**WE WANT YOU!
CARNIVAL VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

It takes a village to make the
carnival run!

Sign up for a shift of just a
few hours, and make lots of
children smile!

All proceeds of the carnival
benefit our community at
Kahal!

Sign up at
www.kahaljoseph.org/volunteers.html
today!

**BE A
BOOTH
SPONSOR!**

Sponsor a booth for the
Purim Carnival!

Bring joy and support
Kahal Joseph!

Full Booth - \$500
Partial Booth - \$250

Contact the office at
310.474.0559



KAHAL JOSEPH INVITES YOU TO

**PURIM
CARNIVAL**

Games! Food! Fun! Prizes!

Sunday, Feb. 25

11 AM - 3 PM

\$20 WRISTBAND

UNLIMITED RIDES & GAMES

**Delicious food, Iraqi treats,
great prizes and more!**

All proceeds benefit Kahal!

Event Chairs: Jonathan Kelly, Molly Jalali, & Jessica Melhado



Happy Purim

Wednesday, February 28

5:00 PM - Minha w/Birkat Cohanim

followed by

Raffle and Reading of Megilat Esther

and

A light dinner with Hamantashen

Sponsored by the Mizrahie & Jonah Families

Thursday, March 1

5:45 AM - Shaharit & Megila

